

§ 18.119

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If a seismic survey, record the estimated radius of the zone of ensonification;

(G) Behavior of animals at initial sighting, any change in behavior during the observation period, and distance from the observers associated with those behavioral changes;

(H) Detailed description of the encounter;

(I) Duration of the encounter;

(J) Duration of any behavioral response (e.g., time and distance of a flight response) and;

(K) Actions taken.

(iii) *Polar bear observation reports.* The operator must report, within 24 hours, all observations of polar bears during any Industry operation. Information within the observation report will include, but is not limited to:

(A) Date, time, and location of observation;

(B) Number, sex, and age of bears (if determinable);

(C) Observer name, company name, vessel name, LOA number, and contact information;

(D) Weather, visibility, and ice conditions at the time of observation;

(E) Estimated closest point of approach for bears from personnel and/or vessel/facilities;

(F) Industry activity at time of sighting, and possible attractants present;

(G) Behavior of animals at initial sighting and after contact;

(H) Description of the encounter;

(I) Duration of the encounter; and

(J) Actions taken.

(iv) *Notification of incident report.* Reports should include all information specified under the species observation report, as well as a full written description of the encounter and actions taken by the operator. The operator must report to the Service within 24 hours:

(A) Any incidental lethal take or injury of a polar bear or walrus; and

(B) Observations of walruses or polar bears within prescribed mitigation monitoring zones.

(2) *After-action monitoring reports.* The results of monitoring efforts identified in the marine mammal monitoring and mitigation plan must be submitted to the Service for review within 90 days of

completing the year's activities. Results must include, but are not limited to, the following information:

(i) A summary of monitoring effort including: Total hours, total distances, and distribution through study period of each vessel and aircraft;

(ii) Analysis of factors affecting the visibility and detectability of walruses and polar bears by specified monitoring;

(iii) Analysis of the distribution, abundance, and behavior of walrus and polar bear sightings in relation to date, location, ice conditions, and operational state;

(iv) Estimates of take based on the number of animals encountered/kilometer of vessel and aircraft operations by behavioral response (no response, moved away, dove, etc.), and animals encountered per day by behavioral response for stationary drilling operations; and

(v) Raw data in electronic format (i.e., Excel spreadsheet) as specified by the Service in consultation with Industry representatives.

§ 18.119 What are the information collection requirements?

(a) The Office of Management and Budget has approved the collection of information contained in this subpart and assigned control number 1018-0070. You must respond to this information collection request to obtain a benefit pursuant to section 101(a)(5) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. We will use the information to:

(1) Evaluate the application and determine whether or not to issue specific Letters of Authorization.

(2) Monitor impacts of activities conducted under the Letters of Authorization.

(b) You should direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this requirement to the Service's Information Collection Clearance Officer at the address provided at 50 CFR 2.1(b).

[78 FR 35420, June 12, 2013, amended at 79 FR 43965, July 29, 2014]